APR 2 9 2005 W

Patent Application Attorney Docket No.PC11724D EXPRESS MAIL EV654805515US

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(Signature of person mailing)
Deanna L. Shields

(Typed or printed name of person)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Zheng J. Li, et al.

APPLICATION NO.: 10/650,253 : Examiner: Unknown

FILING DATE: August 27,2003 : Group Art Unit: 1623

TITLE: CRYSTAL FORMS OF AZITHROMYCIN :

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTN: Technology Center Special Program Examiner

Sir:

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.102

Applicants hereby request that the present application be made special for accelerated examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 and M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII).

REQUIREMENT OF M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(A) - FEE

The commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h) in the amount of \$130.00 to our Deposit Account No. 16-1445 for consideration of the present petition. Therefore, Applicants have satisfied the requirement of M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(A).

REQUIREMENT OF M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(B) – SINGLE INVENTION

Applicants have concurrently filed a Second Preliminary Amendment canceling all pending claims without prejudice and introducing new claims 124-143 which are directed to substantially pure Form F and pharmaceutical dosage forms comprising Form F. Applicants

respectfully submit that new claims 124-143 are directed to a single invention (a copy of new claims 124-143 is enclosed herein). However, if the Patent Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, Applicants will make an election without traverse. Applicants respectfully submit that the requirements of M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(B) have been met.

REQUIREMENT OF M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(C) – PRE-EXAMINATION SEARCH

M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(C) requires the submission of a statement on preexamination search. Applicants note that such requirement can be met by a search made by a foreign patent office if the claims in the corresponding foreign application are of the same or similar scope to the claims in the U.S. application for which special status is requested.

Applicants would like to point out that a search was made by the International Searching Authority/European Patent Office and the claims in the PCT application are of similar scope to the claims in the present U.S. application. For your convenience, a copy of the pending PCT claims is enclosed as well as copies of the PCT search report and the written opinion. Therefore, Applicants have satisfied the requirement of M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(C).

REQUIREMENT OF M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(D) – COPIES OF THE REFERENCES

The PCT search report cited the following nine references:

Ref. 1	EP 0298650A (Pfizer), January 11, 1989;
Ref. 2	EP 1103558A (Astur Pharma S A), May 30, 2001;
Ref. 3	WO 0100640A (Ludescher Jonannes), January 4, 2001;
Ref. 4	CA 2245398A (Motamedi M), February 21, 2000;
Ref. 5	WO 00 32203A Singer Claude), June 8, 2000;
Ref. 6	CN 1093370A (Jicai Medicine Research Inst B), October 12, 1994;
Ref. 7	Chemical Abstract No. 29525, Vol. 124, No. 3, January 15, 1996;
Ref. 8	WO 9804574A (Abbott Lab), February 5, 1998; and

Ref. 9 WO 0014099A (Kim Wan Joo), March 16, 2000.

All of the nine references, including their English translation where the references were published in foreign languages, were cited/submitted to the U.S. Patent Office in the Information Disclosure Statement mailed on October 15, 2003. Therefore, the requirement of M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(D) was satisfied, as all these references were already cited/submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

REQUIREMENT OF M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(D) – DETAILED DISCUSSIONS

The references cited in the PCT search report were discussed in the enclosed PCT written opinion, a copy of which is enclosed herein. Applicants note that most of the references cited in the PCT search report are related to azithromycin forms other than Form F. In addition, Applicants have canceled all existing claims and introduced new claims 124-143, which are directed to substantially pure Form F and pharmaceutical dosage forms containing Form F. Therefore, Applicants have satisfied the requirement of M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(D).

Patent Application Attorney Docket No.PC11724D EXPRESS MAIL EV654805515US

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the present petition has satisfied all the requirements of M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII)(A), (B), (C), (D) and (E). Accordingly favorable consideration of the present petition is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fee, other than the \$130 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h) is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of the present petition. However, if any other fees are required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

Date: 04/29/05

Respectfully submitted,

Lance Y. Liu

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 45,379

Customer No. 28523

Pfizer Inc.

Patent Department, MS 8260-1611 Eastern Point Road Groton, Connecticut 06340

(860) 686-1652

nai Application No PCT/IB 02/01570

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C07H17/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C07H

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT								
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.						
A	EP 0 298 650 A (PFIZER) 11 January 1989 (1989-01-11) cited in the application page 4 method B	1,2,15						
P,A	EP 1 103 558 A (ASTUR PHARMA S A) 30 May 2001 (2001-05-30) page 4; table	1,2,15						
A	WO 01 00640 A (LUDESCHER JOHANNES ;GARCIA RAFAEL (ES); BIOCHEMIE SA (ES); DIAGO J) 4 January 2001 (2001-01-04) page 10, line 26 - line 28	1,4,5, 8-13						
X	CA 2 245 398 A (MOTAMEDI M., KARIMIAN K., APOTEX INC.) 21 February 2000 (2000-02-21) whole document	1,4,5, 8-13						

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
 Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filling date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed 	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 1 October 2002	Date of mailing of the international search report
Name and malling address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 851 epo ni, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016	Authorized officer Klein, D

Internal hal Application No
PCT/IB 02/01570

		PCT/1B 02/015	0/0
C.(Continua	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevi	ant to claim No.
X	WO 00 32203 A (SINGER CLAUDE ;TEVA PHARMA (IL); ARONHEIM JUDITH (IL); TEVA PHARMA) 8 June 2000 (2000-06-08) cited in the application whole document		1,4,5, 8-13
Α	CN 1 093 370 A (JICAI MEDICINE RESEARCH INST B) 12 October 1994 (1994-10-12)		
X	& CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, vol. 124, no. 3, 15 January 1996 (1996-01-15) Columbus, Ohio, US; abstract no. 29525, abstract		1-15
X	WO 98 04574 A (ABBOTT LAB) 5 February 1998 (1998-02-05) examples		1-15
A	WO 00 14099 A (KIM WAN JOO ; LEE KYOUNG IK (KR); LEE TAE SUK (KR); LEE GWAN SUN (K) 16 March 2000 (2000-03-16) the whole document		
		. [

PCT/IB 02/01570

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box I Observa	ations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)
This International S	Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. Claims No because the	os.: they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. Claims No because th an extent t	os.: they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
	they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II Observa	tions where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This international S	Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
see ad	dditional sheet
1. X As all requisearchable	uired additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers all e claims.
2. As all seam of any add	rchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment ditional fee.
3. As only so covers only	ome of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report by those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No require restricted t	ed additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark on Protest	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1(part), 2, 15

Crystals of azithromycin obtained in non polar solvents: monohydrate monocyclohexane solvate of azithromycin (form D). monomonomethyl tertiobutyl ether solvate of azithromycin (form R).

2. Claims: 1(part), 3, 14

Crystals of azithromycin obtained in the presence of THF: monohydrate monotetrahydrofuran solvate of azithromycin (form E).
monohydrate hemitetrahydrofuran solvate of azithromycin (form Q).

3. Claims: 1(part), 4, 5, 8-13

Crystals of azithromycin consisting in alcohol solvates: Forms F, H, J, M, N, O, P.

4. Claims: 6, 7

Crystals of azithromycin obtained in the sesquihydrate form: (form ${\bf G}$).

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/IB 02/01570

	tent document in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP	0298650		11-01-1989	WO	8900576	A1	26-01-1989
		• •		AP		Α.	27-07-1989
				AT		T T	15-02-1992
				AU	604553		20-12-1990
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				BG	47348		15-06-1990
				CA	1314876		23-03-1993
				CN	1030422		18-01-1989
				CS	8804896		14-03-1990
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				DD	271705		13-09-1989
				DE	38682 96		19-03-1992
				DK Ep	380688 0298650		10-01-1989
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				FI	900087		08-01-1990
				GR	3003737	,5, T3	16-03-1993
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				NZ	225338		26-02-1990
				OA PT	8743 <i>.</i>		31-03-1989
				RO	87933 <i> </i> 107257	A,B	30-06-1989 30-10-1993
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				RU	2066324		10-09-1996
				ÜS	6268489		31-07-2001
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				JP	2001187797		10-07-2001
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				TR	200003474		23-07-2001
				ÜS	6451990		17-09-2002
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				WO Ep	0100640		04-01-2001
					1189915 /	 -	27-03-2002
CA	2245398 	Α		NONE		<u>ال</u> ة حب مد حي بي بي بي	
WO (0032203	Α	08-06-2000	AU	3106500 /		19-06-2000
				BG	105547 /		31-12-2001
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Information on patent family members

Internation Application No
PCT/IB 02/01570

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 0032203	Α		LV	12735	A	20-10-2001
			LV	12735	В	20-03-2002
			PL	347971	A1	06-05-2002
			SI	20639	Α	28-02-2002
			MO	0032203	A1	08-06-2000
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			JP	2002524465	T	06-08-2002
			WO	0014099	Δ1	16-03-2000

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the	/ .					
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EX	AMINING AUTHOR	TTY	PCT			
To: LUMB, Trevor J.		<u></u>				
PFIZER Inc 201 Tabor Road, Morris	Plains,	WALL 1 OWRITTEN OPINION				
New Jersey 07950 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE	; :		(PCT Rule 66)			
	·		ha			
		Date of mailing (day month year)	04/03/2003			
Applicant's or agent's file reference		REPLY DUE				
PC11724ABCZ			within 1 / 00 months/days from the above date of mailing			
International application No.	International filing dat	e (day/month/year)	Priority date (day month year)			
PCT/ IB 02/ 01570	01/05/2002		22/05/2001			
International Patent Classification (IPC) or	both national classificat	ion and IPC				
	C07H17/08					
Applicant						
PFIZER PRODUCTS INC.et	al.					
1. This written opinion is the first drawn u	up by this International I	Preliminary Examining	Authority			
2. This opinion contains indications relating			Addionty.			
I X Basis of the opinion						
II Priority		•	5			
III X Non-establishment of opini	on with regard to novelt	y, inventive step and in	dustrial applicability			
n (V)						
IV X Lack of unity of invention						
V X Reasoned statement under I citations and explanations st	Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with rega upporting such statemen	rd to novelty, inventive t	step or industrial applicability;			
VI Certain documents cited						
VII Certain defects in the intern						
VIII Certain observations on the	international application	•				
 The applicant is hereby invited to reply to When? See the time limit indicated about to grant an extension, see Rule How? By submitting a written reply, For the form and the language 	ove. The applicant may, to 66.2(d).					
Also For an additional opportunity to For the examiner's obligation to For an informal communication	o submit amendments, see	ee Rule 66.4.				
If no reply is filed, the international preli		эг wiii be established o	n the basis of this opinion.			
. The final date by which the international per examination report must be established acceptable.	oreliminary cording to Rule 69.2 is:	22/09/2	2003			
ame and mailing address of the IPEA/	Tz	Authorized officer	(B) (B)			
European Patent Office	j j	Examiner				
D-80298 Munich Tel. (+49-89) 2399-0, Tx: 523656 (Fax: (+49-89) 2399-4465	1 (1	(incl. extension of time limits)				
m PCT/IPFA /408 (cover sheet) (= each 2000		rel. (+49-89) 2399 282	8 7			

I. Basis of the opinion

The basis of this written opinion is the application as originally filed.

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

If all the additional search fees, which the applicant has been invited to pay, have not been paid, then all the inventions or groups of inventions corresponding to the unpaid fees will not have been searched. This means that the question of whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step, or to be industrially applicable has not been and will not be the subject of the international preliminary examination in respect of the claims corresponding to these inventions or groups of inventions (Article 17(3)(a) and Rule 66.1(e) PCT; see also international search report).

IV. Lack of unity of invention

The objection as to lack of unity raised in the international search report is maintained. The reasons for the objection are the same as those indicated in the international search report.

- V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability
- 1. To the extent that the international preliminary examination has been carried out (see item III above), the following is pointed out:
- 2. In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in at least some of the claims, which have been the subject of an international search report, does not appear to meet the criteria mentioned in Article 33(1) PCT, i.e. does not appear to be novel and/or to involve an inventive step (see international search report, in particular the documents cited X and/or Y and corresponding claim references).
- 3. If amendments are filed, the applicant should comply with the requirements of Rule 66.8 PCT and indicate the basis of the amendments in the documents of the application as originally filed (Article 34 (2) (b) PCT) otherwise these amendments may not be taken into consideration for the establishment of the international preliminary examination report. The attention of the applicant is drawn to the fact that if the application contains an unnecessary plurality of independent claims, no examination of any of the claims will be carried out.
- NB: Should the applicant decide to request detailed substantive examination, then an international preliminary examination report will normally be established directly. Exceptionally the examiner may draw up a second written opinion, should this be explicitly requested.



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1 123. (Canceled).
- 124. (NEW) A crystalline form of azithromycin, wherein said form is substantially pure Form F.
- 125. (NEW) A pharmaceutical dosage form comprising said substantially pure Form F of claim 124.
- 126. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 125, wherein substantially pure Form F is characterized as containing 2-5% water and 1-5% ethanol by weight in a powder sample.
- 127. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 126, wherein said substantially pure Form F is characterized as having a ¹³C solid state NMR spectrum comprising at least one peak with chemical shift of about 179.5 ppm.
- 128. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 127, wherein said substantially pure Form F is characterized as having a ¹³C solid state NMR spectrum further comprising a peak with chemical shifts of about 178.6 ppm.
- 129. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 128, wherein said substantially pure Form F is characterized as having a ¹³C solid state NMR spectrum further comprising a peak with chemical shifts of about 58.0 ppm.
- 130 (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 129, wherein said substantially pure Form F is characterized as having a ¹³C solid state NMR spectrum further comprising a peak with chemical shifts of about 17.2 ppm.
- 131. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 130, wherein said substantially pure Form F is characterized as having a ¹³C solid state NMR spectrum further comprising a peak with chemical shifts of about 10.1 ppm.

- 132. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 131, wherein said substantially pure Form F is characterized as having a ¹³C solid state NMR spectrum further comprising a peak with chemical shifts of about 9.8 ppm.
- 133. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 132, wherein said substantially pure Form F is characterized as having a ¹³C solid state NMR spectrum further comprising a peak with chemical shifts of about 9.3 ppm.
- 134. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 133, wherein said substantially pure Form F is characterized as having a ¹³C solid state NMR spectrum further comprising a peak with chemical shifts of about 7.9 ppm.
- 135 (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 134, wherein said substantially pure Form F is characterized as having a ¹³C solid state NMR spectrum further comprising a peak with chemical shifts of about 6.6 ppm.
- 136. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 125, wherein said substantially pure Form F comprises 82% or more by weight of form F azithromycin.
- 137 (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 125, wherein said substantially pure Form F comprises 84% or more by weight of form F azithromycin.
- 138. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 125, wherein said substantially pure Form F comprises 86% or more by weight of form F azithromycin.
- 139. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 125, wherein said substantially pure Form F comprises 88% or more by weight of form F azithromycin.
- 140. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 125, wherein said substantially pure Form F comprises 90% or more by weight of form F azithromycin.
- 141. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 125, wherein said substantially pure Form F comprises 94% or more by weight of form F azithromycin.

- 142. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 125, wherein said substantially pure Form F comprises 98% or more by weight of form F azithromycin.
- 143. (NEW) The pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 125, wherein said substantially pure Form F comprises 99% or more by weight of form F azithromycin.



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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1. A crystalline form of azithromycin selected from the group consisting of forms D, E, substantially pure F, substantially pure G, H, J, M substantially in the absence of azithromycin dihydrate, N, O, P, Q, and R.
- A crystalline form of azithromycin according to claim 1 wherein said form is form D
 and is further characterized as having a 13C solid state NMR spectrum having a
 peaks with chemical shifts of about 178.1 ppm, 103.9 ppm, 95.1 ppm, 84.2 ppm, 10.6
 ppm, 9.0 ppm and 8.6 ppm.
- A crystalline form of azithromycin according to claim 1 wherein said form is form E.
 - 4. A crystalline form of azithromycin according to claim 1 wherein said form is substantially pure form F and is further characterized as having a 13C solid state NMR spectrum having a peaks with chemical shifts of about 179.5 ppm, 178.6 ppm, 58.0 ppm, 10.1 ppm 9.8 ppm, 9.3 ppm, 7.9 ppm and 6.6 ppm.
- 15 5. A crystalline form of azithromycin according to claim 4 wherein said azithromycin comprises 90% or more by weight of form F azithromycin.
 - 6. A crystal form according to claim 1 wherein said form is substantially pure form G and is further characterized as having a 13C solid state NMR spectrum having a peaks with chemical shifts of about 179.5 ppm, 10.4 ppm, 9.9 ppm, 9.3 ppm, 7.6 ppm and 6.5 ppm.
 - 7. A crystalline form of azithromycin according to claim 6 wherein said azithromycin comprises 90% or more by weight of form G azithromycin.
- 8. A crystal form according to claim 1 wherein said form is form H and is further characterized as having a 13C solid state NMR spectrum having a peaks with chemical shifts of about 179.5 ppm, 178.7 ppm, 9.9 ppm, 9.1 ppm, 7.9 ppm and 7.0 ppm.
 - 9. A crystal form according to claim 1 wherein said form is form J and is further characterized as having a 13C solid state NMR spectrum having a peaks with chemical shifts of about 179.6 ppm, 178.4 ppm, 25.2 ppm, 11.5 ppm, 10.0 ppm, 9.3 ppm, 8.1 ppm and 6.8 ppm.

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PCT/IB02/01570

- 10. A crystal form according to claim 1 wherein said form is form M substantially in the absence of azithromycin dihydrate and is further characterized as having a 13C solid state NMR spectrum having a peaks with chemical shifts of about 179.6 ppm, 41.9 ppm, 26.0 ppm, 16.3 ppm, 10.3 ppm, 9.6 ppm, 9.3 ppm, 7.7 ppm and 7.1 ppm.
- 5 11. A crystal form according to claim 1 wherein said form is form N and is further characterized as having a 13C solid state NMR spectrum having a peaks with chemical shifts of about 179.6 ppm, 178.7 ppm, 105.6 ppm, 58.1 ppm, 26.0 ppm, 9.9 ppm, 9.4 ppm, 7.9 ppm, and 6.6 ppm.
 - 12. A crystal form according to claim 1 wherein said form is form O.
- 10 13. A crystal form according to claim 1 wherein said form is form P.
 - 14. A crystal form according to claim 1 wherein said form is form Q.
 - 15. A crystal form according to claim 1 wherein said form is form R and is further characterized as having a 13C solid state NMR spectrum having a peaks with chemical shifts of about 177.9 ppm, 103.6 ppm, 95.3 ppm, 10.3 ppm, 9.6 ppm, 8.9 ppm, and 8.6 ppm.